

Serial No.: 10/550,734
Atty. Docket No.: P70816US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth herein:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising a web of gel-forming fibers or fibers soluble in wound exudates having a density in a range of 5-60 g/m², and a non-absorbent reinforcing layer attached to said web, said reinforcing layer having a density in a range of 15-40 g/m².

12. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the fibers are selected from the group consisting of polysaccharide fibers, polyacrylate fibers, chitosan, alginate containing CMC, CMC fibers and derivatives and mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by needling.

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14. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by thermal bonding.

15. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by an adhesive.

16. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the reinforcing layer is in the form of a net, a foam, a film, a non-woven or woven material.

17. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the dressing includes one or more active ingredients.

18. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 17 wherein the active ingredient includes an antibacterial agent.

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19. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 17 wherein the active ingredient includes a pain-relieving agent.

20. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the dressing includes Ag-Ca-alginate and/or Ag-Na-CMC.

21. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to claim 11 wherein the density of said web is about 30 g/m² and the density of said reinforcing layer is about 20 g/m² for an overall density of said dressing of about 50 g/m².

22. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising a web of gel-forming fibers or fibers soluble in wound exudates having a density in a range of 5-60 g/m², and a non-absorbent reinforcing layer attached to said web, said reinforcing layer having a density in a range of 20-30 g/m².

23. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising a web of gel-forming fibers or fibers soluble in wound exudates having a first density and a non-absorbent reinforcing layer attached to

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· said web and having a second density, a sum of said first density
. and said second density representing an overall density of said
wound dressing, said overall wound dressing density being about 50
g/m².

24. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing according to
. claim 23 wherein the density of said web is about 30 g/m² and the
density of said reinforcing layer is about 20 g/m².